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AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 JUN 2006

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yasufumi NISHII et al.

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/JP2004/018702

Filed: June 9, 2006

Docket No.: 128375

For: STAGE APPARATUS, EXPOSURE APPARATUS, AND EXPOSURE METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of one or more non-English language reference is discussed in the present specification. See References 9 & 11-16.
- ☒ 3. One or more reference cited herein was cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 7-10.
- ☒ 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 5. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 8-12 & 14-16.

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- ☒ 6. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 7-8 & 10-16.
- ☒ 7. Reference 2 corresponds to reference 14. Reference 3 corresponds to reference 15. Reference 4 corresponds to reference 16. Reference 5 corresponds to reference 10. Reference 6 corresponds to reference 7.

Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 128375		APPLICATION NO. New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/018702	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Yasufumi NISHII et al.			
				FILING DATE June 9, 2006			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name			
	1	5,623,853	04/29/1997	NOVAK et al.			
	2	5,528,118	06/18/1996	LEE			
	3	5,874,820	02/23/1999	LEE			
	4	6,255,796 B1	07/03/2001	EBIHARA et al.			
	5	5,610,683	03/11/1997	TAKAHASHI			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation	
	6	EP 1 429 188 A2	06/16/2004	EUROPE			
	7	JP A 2004-289127	10/14/2004	JAPAN		X	
	8	JP A 10-303114	11/13/1998	JAPAN	X	X	
	9	WO 99/49504 A1	09/30/1999	WIPO	X		
	10	JP A 6-168866	06/14/1994	JAPAN	X	X	
	11	JP A 10-163099	06/19/1998	JAPAN	X	X	
	12	JP A 10-214783	08/11/1998	JAPAN	X	X	
	13	JP A 2000-505958	05/16/2000	JAPAN		X	
	14	JP A 8-166475	06/25/1996	JAPAN	X	X	
	15	JP A 8-330224	12/13/1996	JAPAN	X	X	
	16	JP A 8-63231	03/08/1996	JAPAN	X	X	
OTHER DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: June 9, 2006